

2021 NCNG Suicide Prevention Awareness Month Proclamation

Whereas, September is Suicide Prevention Awareness Month, the North Carolina National Guard will provide suicide prevention awareness and resources to its service members and their families, share a message of hope, and engage in conversations that promote the value of Life, build resiliency, reduce stigma for treatment; and

Whereas, suicidal thoughts can affect anyone regardless of rank, occupation, age, gender, race, orientation, income level, religion, or background; and

Whereas, according to the Center for Disease Control, each year more than 41,000 people die by suicide; and

Whereas, suicide is the tenth leading cause of death among adults in the US, and the second leading cause of death among people aged 10-24; and

Whereas, all service members of the North Carolina National Guard have an inherent responsibility to protect the lives of one another and to foster a climate of mutual dignity, respect, concern and trust throughout the ranks; and

Whereas, we are committed to preventing suicide within our band of brothers and sisters, we must educate ourselves and possess the qualities of patience, dedication, empathy, compassion and understanding in order to help our fellow servicemen and women receive the help they need; and

Whereas, September is dedicated to the cause of Suicide Prevention, we must continuously reinforce and support standards of mental, medical and physical readiness and collectively emphasize the importance of turning empathy into action.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE do hereby proclaim September 2021 as the NCNG Suicide Prevention Awareness Month because we recognize the value of Life inherent in all of our Soldiers and Airmen; that we stand united in our desire to never lose another one of our own. We call upon all Leaders to take action by engaging, educating and empowering service members to observe Suicide Prevention Awareness Month.

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